AGENDA TRAVERSE CITY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015 7:00 P.M.

Commission Chamber, Governmental Center, 2nd Floor 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, Michigan 49684 231-922-4464

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- 2. ROLL CALL
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES- Approval of the April 14, 2015 regular meeting minutes.
- 4. REQUEST 15-BZA-06 A REQUEST FROM ROBERT YVON, 134 EAST NINTH STREET, TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN for:

A 30 foot dimensional variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street and be less than 100 feet from an existing driveway located at the property commonly known as **1034 South Garfield Avenue**, Traverse City, Michigan.

5. REQUEST 15-BZA-07 – A REQUEST FROM TOM MCINTYRE OF SNAFU INVESTMENTS, 116 CASS STREET, TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN for:

A use variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street in a C-4 district located at the property commonly known as **215 Washington Street**, Traverse City, Michigan.

- 6. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 7. OTHER BUSINESS
- 8. ADJOURNMENT

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Penny Hill, Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, 922-4481, T.D.D., 922-4412, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the ADA Coordinator. If you are planning to attend and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting and/or if you have any concerns, please immediately notify the ADA Coordinator.

MINUTES TRAVERSE CITY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Committee Room, Governmental Center, 2nd Floor 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, Michigan 49684 231-922-4464

PRESENT: Members Bergman, Szajner, Donaldson, Raferty, Wegener, Hanley and Vice-

Chairperson Callison and Chairperson Cockfield.

ABSENT: Members Lomasney and Jones.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- Approval of the March 10, 2015 regular meeting minutes.

Motion by Member Donaldson, seconded by Member Bergman to approve the March 10, 2015 regular meeting minutes as presented. Upon vote the motion carried 8-0.

3. REQUEST 15-BZA-04 – A REQUEST FROM MICHAEL BOUDJALIS, 539 WEST FRONT STREET, TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN for:

A dimensional variance to allow for a new home to have an attached garage which has alley access that is located in the Central Neighborhood Historic District located at the property commonly known as **116 South Maple Street**, Traverse City, Michigan.

Mike Boudjalis presented drawings and answered questions from the Board.

Public comment was opened.

Tom Mair, 116 South Maple Street, spoke about having the house moved instead of being demolished.

Motion by Member Donaldson, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Callison to grant a dimensional variance to allow for a new home to have an attached

garage which has alley access that is located in the Central Neighborhood Historic District located at the property commonly known as 116 South Maple

	Street, Traverse City, Michigan based on the Statement of Conclusions and Finding of Fact contained in the Order Granting for Variance No. 15-BZA-04. Upon vote the motion carried 8-0.
4.	PUBLIC COMMENT None.
5.	ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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David Westor	, Planning and Zoning Administrator
Data:	

CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY ORDER AUTHORIZING VARIANCE NO. 15-BZA-04

Pursuant to the City of Traverse City Code of Ordinances § 1324.05(d), Variances, the Board of Zoning Appeals hereby authorizes a dimensional variance for the following:

Street Ad	ddress:
-----------	---------

116 South Maple Street

Property Description:

N 65 FT OF LOTS 15-16-17 BLOCK 16 HANNAH LAY & CO'S

10TH ADD

Variance Granted:

A dimensional variance to allow for a new home to have an attached garage which has alley access that is located in

the Central Neighborhood Historic District

Applicant:

Michael Boudjalis, 539 West Front Street, Traverse City,

Michigan.

It is determined that the Applicant has demonstrated a hardship as well as showing of good and sufficient cause authorizing a variance by the City of Traverse City Code of Ordinances. The findings of fact and reasons upon which this determination is based are as follows:

- 1. The attached Statement of Conclusions and Finding of Fact are incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. The procedures and requirements for variance decisions by law and ordinance have been followed.

This Order shall not be deemed to be City approval for anything other than the variance authorized by this order and shall not relieve the owner or occupier of the land from obtaining any other license, permit or approval required by law or ordinance.

I hereby certify that the above Order was a	dopted on,,
at a regular meeting of the Board of Zoning	g Appeals for the City of Traverse City at the
County Committee Room, Governmental C	enter, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City,
Michigan.	
Date:	
	David Weston, Planning and Zoning
	Administrator

Note: A decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals shall be final. However, any party having a substantial interest affected by an order, determination or decision by the Board of Zoning Appeals may appeal to the Circuit Court, if made to the Court within twenty-eight (28) days after rendering the final decision or upon grant by the Court of leave to appeal. Codified Ordinances of Traverse City Michigan

STATEMENT OF CONCLUSION AND FINDINGS OF FACTS 15-BZA-04

The following are the Statements of Conclusions supported by evidence submitted to the Board of Zoning Appeals in connection with a request for a dimensional variance, Request No. 15-BZA-04, for the property commonly known as **116 South Maple Street**, Traverse City, Michigan, from Michael Boudjalis.

- Practical Difficulty. There are exceptional or extraordinary circumstances or physical conditions that do not generally apply to other properties or used in the same district.
- 2. In granting the variance, the spirit of the Zoning Code is observed, public safety is secured and substantial justice is done.
- 3. No substantial adverse effect on property values in the immediate vicinity or in the district where the property is located will occur as a result of granting this variance.
- 4. The difficulty presented by the applicant in support of the request for a variance is not so general or recurrent in nature that a formulation of a general regulation for such condition is preferable.
- The practical difficulty is unique to the property and not to the general neighborhood and shall apply only to property under control of the applicant.
- Granting the variance is necessary for the preservation of a substantial property right possessed by other properties in the same zoning district.
- 7. The difficulty is not solely economic and is based on the reasonable use of a particular parcel of land.
- 8. The difficulty was not the result of an act of the applicant or a person in privity or concert with the applicant.

The foregoing Statement of Conclusions are supported by the following Findings of Fact No 15-BZA-04:

- 1. The parcel is a nonconforming lot with dimension of 65' x 75'.
- 2. The parcel is located in the Central Neighborhood Historic District.
- 3. The Zoning Code prohibits attached garages for parcels with alley access in designated Historic Districts.
- 4. The Zoning Code requires detached garages have a separation requirement of 20 feet between the garage and the dwelling in designated Historic Districts
- 5. Meeting the separation requirement between the dwelling and the garage would only allow a buildable area of approximately 7' x 44'.
- 6. The architectural plans will need to be approved by the Historic Districts Commission.



Communication to the Board of Zoning Appeals

FOR THE MEETING OF:

May 12, 2015

FROM:

DAVID WESTON, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR DM L

SUBJECT:

REQUEST 15-BZA-06

DATE:

May 8, 2015

A request from A request from Robert Yvon, 134 E. Ninth Street, Traverse City, Michigan for relief from the zoning laws to allow for a new driveway to access Garfield Avenue for the property commonly known as 1034 S. Garfield Avenue.

Presently, there is residential home located at the property mentioned with two driveways on Garfield Avenue. The applicant would like to construct a single driveway onto Garfield Avenue and eliminate one existing driveway. The property mentioned is zoned C-1 (Office Service District) and a driveway cannot be any closer than 100 feet (with City Engineer approval) from an existing driveway (§1374.04(c)). As proposed, if the new driveway is constructed it will be 70 feet from an existing driveway (Pure Water Works). The applicant will be requesting a 30 foot dimensional variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street and be less than 100 feet from an existing driveway.



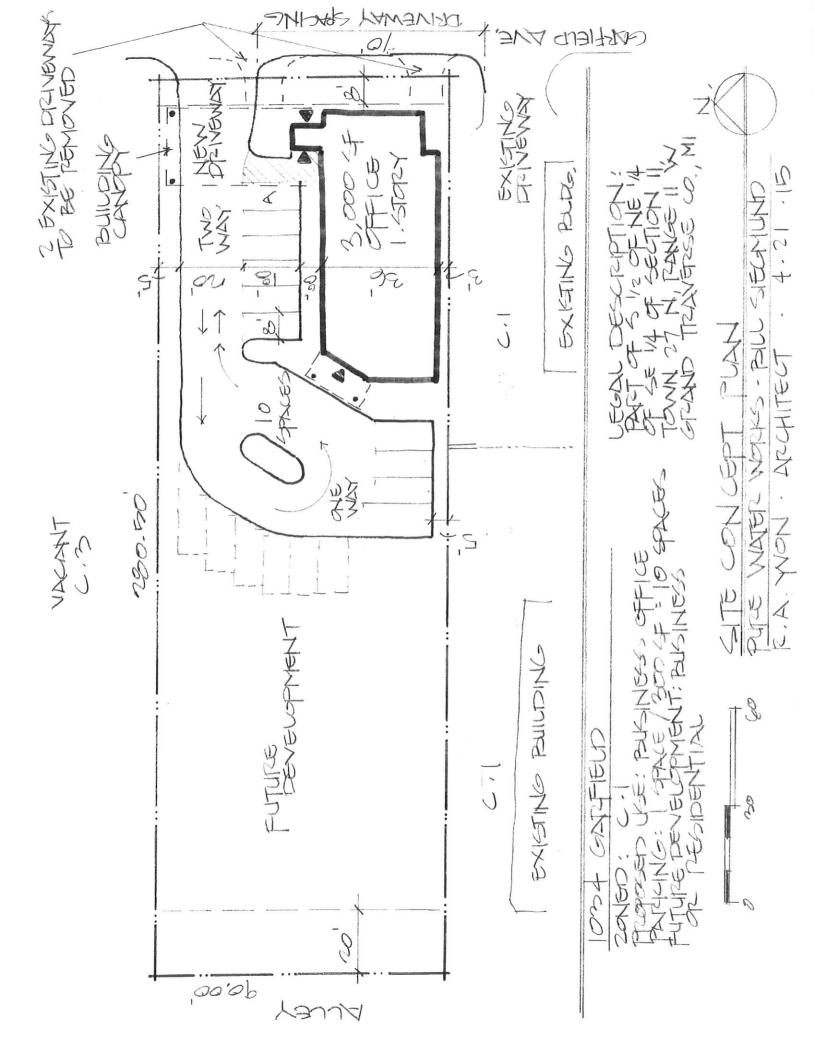
City of Traverse City

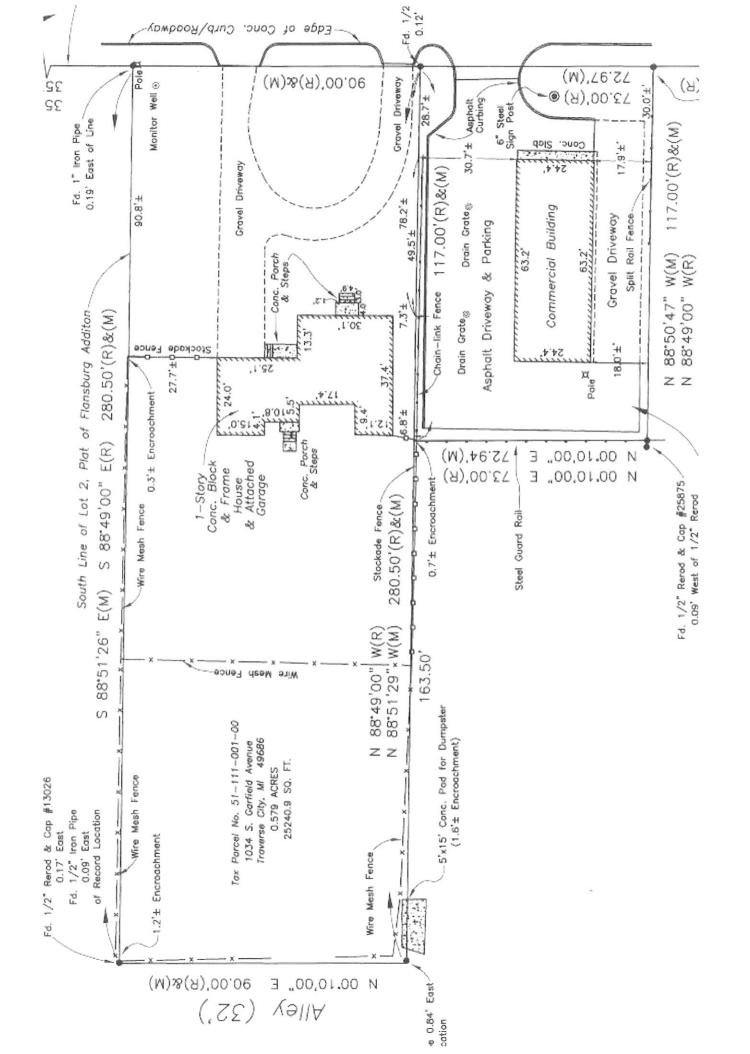
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15-BRA-04

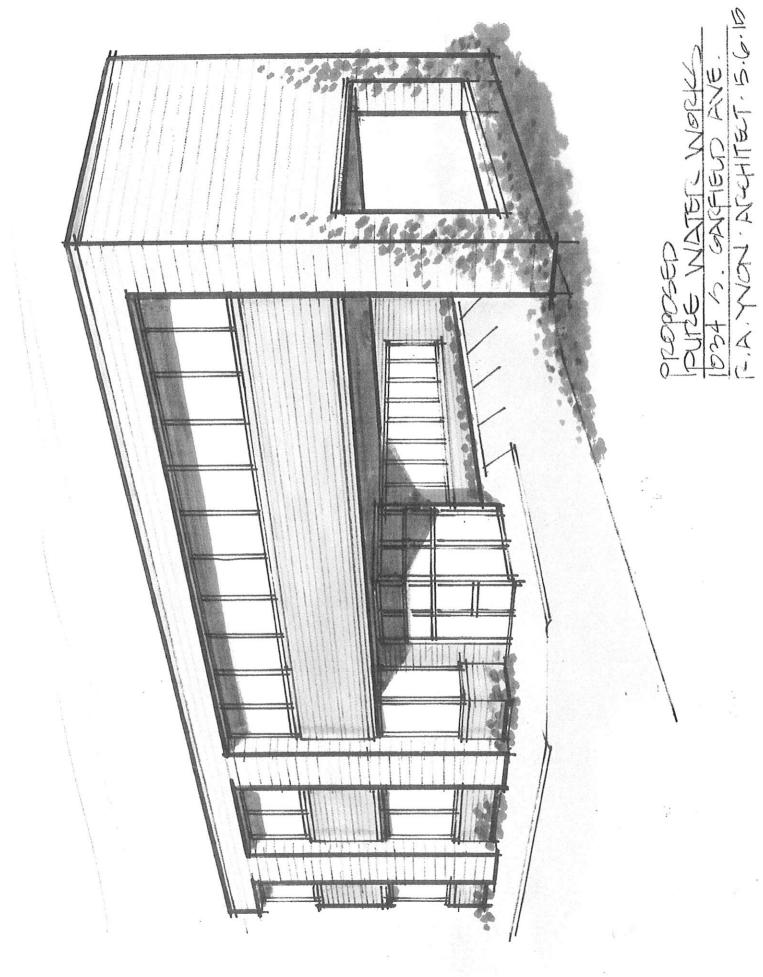
TRAVERSE CITY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS A P P L I C A T I O N

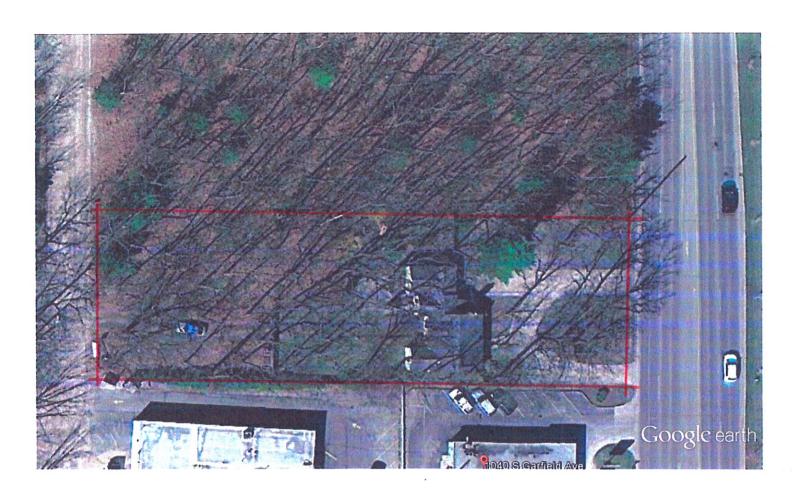
for Variance, Exception, Appeal, Ordinance Interpretation or Reconsideration

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (legal description AND property address): 1034 5. CARFIELD ANE. TO MI
127 N, P 11 W
REQUEST AND PROPOSED PROJECT: PEDUCTION FROM 100' TO 70' (30' VAPIANCE) FOR NEW DRIVEWAY PEPLACING 2 EXISTING DRIVEWAYS ON PARCEL (90' ROAD FRONTAGE)
TO BE COMPLETED BY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:
Request: Appeal for Administrative Decision
Interpretation of Ordinance
Exception
Variance
Name: POPERT YVAN Phone: 883 .946 Fax:
Address: 13+ E. NWTH ST. TC MI 49684
Signature of Owner:
Signature of Applicant (if different):
Relationship of Applicant to Owner: Project Architect
APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED A MINIMUM OF 21 DAYS PRIOR
TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE REQUEST WILL BE CONSIDERED.
REPRESENTATION AT HEARING: THE APPLICANT OR THE APPLICANT'S
AUTHORIZED AGENT MUST BE PRESENT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING TO
PROPERLY ANSWER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE APPEAL. IF THE
APPLICANT OR AGENT IS NOT PRESENT, THE APPEAL MAY BE DEFERRED
UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING OR DISMISSED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD.
*** PLEASE NOTE THE REVERSE SIDE FOR SITE PLAN REQUIREMENTS ***











1034 S. GARFIELD AVE. - EXISTING



Communication to the Board of Zoning Appeals

FOR THE MEETING OF:

May 12, 2015

FROM:

DAVID WESTON, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR DML

SUBJECT:

REQUEST 15-BZA-07

DATE:

May 8, 2015

A request from Tom McIntyre of SNAFU Investments, 116 Cass, Traverse City, Michigan for relief from the zoning laws to allow for a new driveway to access Washington Street for the property commonly known as 215 Washington Street.

Presently, there is a 5-story mixed-use building under construction with on-site parking located at the property mentioned which will have access from the alley. Mr. McIntyre would like to construct a new driveway to access the building from Washington Street. The property mentioned is zoned C-4b (Regional Center District) and new driveways are not permitted to be constructed from streets when there is alley access (§1374.04(b)(2)). Mr. McIntyre will be requesting a use variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street in a C-4 district.

For an historical perspective, I have attached communications between the City Engineer and the City Manager and a letter from the City Manager and the applicant. The last variance request for a driveway from a street in a C-4 District was in 2007 for the property located at southwest corner of Boardman Avenue and State Street. I have attached those minutes for your review.

The standard to grant a use variance is as follows:

1324.05(d)(2)(B) Use variance. An unnecessary hardship shall exist where the lot considered in combination with other land owned by the applicant adjacent thereto has no reasonable value.

Memorandum

The City of Traverse City Engineering Department



TO:

Jered Ottenwess, City Manager

FROM:

Timothy J. Lodge, City Engineer

DATE:

November 10, 2014

SUBJECT:

Washington Place Development, 215 Washington Street

As you may recall the City Commission approved the development plans for the above referenced project at their December 2, 2013 meeting. We have recently received the construction plans for the project and have noted some differences. We asked the applicant to summarize the changes and in response received the attached letter from the project Architect. Additionally, staff noticed that the plan included a second level parking area which was not indicated on the approved plans directly, but, a second level of parking was referenced as "Underground Parking". The approved plan indicated that a vehicle elevator would be used to access the second level parking. The plan presented for approval did not have this access but instead indicated a second level access off of City Property either from the alley or Washington Street which have not been authorized or approved.

To ensure consistency with the approved plans we requested the applicant to revise their plans to indicate access to the second level parking by a vehicle elevator and to submit a request to consider access from the City parcel. We have received the attached letter from REI which summarizes the request. To better understand the request we have attached the developer's proposed site plan, A1, for access through the City Property. We have also attached a plan prepared by our office to improve the City property for parking. The plans align quite well for the second level parking, however, after a brief discussion with Parking Staff and the City Attorney several concerns are evident with encumbering the City property with the requested easement.

Finally, we have attached an alternate site plan, A1-ALT, which shows a driveway access off of Washington Street. Current zoning does not allow for this driveway as the development has alley access which is intended to serve as access to the adjacent properties. However, the plan shows a future phase of infill development which may be desirable. A separate application to the BZA will be required if this option is pursued by the Developer.

Because the development plans were reviewed and approved by the City Commission we need guidance as to how to proceed with the request(s) from the developer.

October 2, 2014

Russ Soyring, Director of Planning David Weston, Zoning Administrator City of Traverse City 400 Boardman Ave Traverse City, MI 49684

Re: Washington Place

Russ and David.

RECEVE

001 02 2014

PLANNING DEPT CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY

The Washington Place mixed-use condominium project is scheduled for construction this winter. As you know it has been in the planning phases since 2005. Per your request, the following is my description of the development of the building from early design ideas to final construction documents ready for permit.

Early schematic design renderings developed in 2011 for marketing purposes and developer use show a 4-story red brick building approximately 50 feet high, approximately 48,000 square feet with an approximately 12,000 square foot footprint. It was designed with curved balconies and steel or aluminum rails, arched and recessed primary street entrances, brick patterned fenestration between windows, shallow brick pilasters, parapet walls at the roof, heavy masonry coursing at the first floor and at the sidewalk, limestone or cast stone detailing and decorative infill and tall storefront glazing at both Washington and Cass Streets.

The final plan for the building being built this fall with a 5th floor and overall height of approximately 60 feet is approximately 60,000 square feet and has nearly the same footprint as before plus a two-tiered parking deck to the east. It includes most of the features of the previous design but in a little more refined way: windows are dark to match brick color and muntin patterns are more refined to reflect plan function, hinged French door replace sliders at terraces and balconies, the parapet in most cases is more open with a decorative steel or aluminum rail and there is less limestone or cast stone detailing with more brick in general.

While the footprint is nearly exactly the same, the place is softer architecturally and more sensitive to its downtown context. I hope this helps.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Richmond, AIA



RECEIVED

OCT 07 2014

PLANNING DEPT CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY

10/6/14

Tim Lodge City of Traverse City 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, MI 49684

Regarding: Washington Place - Easement Request

Dear Mr. Lodge,

As the designated agent of SNAFU Investments, LLC and the Washington Place project, I am formally requesting an easement to exit the upper deck of the parking structure into the future City parking lot to the East. If an easement is required and approved, SNAFU agrees to pay for a portion of the construction including site fill to the new grade, gravel base, and paving associated with the drive lane and parking adjacent to the building. SNAFU also agrees to pay for the cost of the lost parking spaces is the easement is required and approved.

As discussed a vehicle elevator has been shown on the drawings to access the upper deck as a backup plan. SNAFU is pursue the possibility of acquiring the neighboring property with the city for a future development associated with Washington Place. Additionally SNAFU will pursue a zoning variance through the ZBA to install a curb cut along Washington Street.

If you need any additional information please feel free to contact my office you need any additional information.

Sincerely.

Jon Laureto

REI Construction Consultants

Traverse City, MI 49684

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-6 CASS STREET (66' RICHT-OF-WAY)

WASHINGTON S

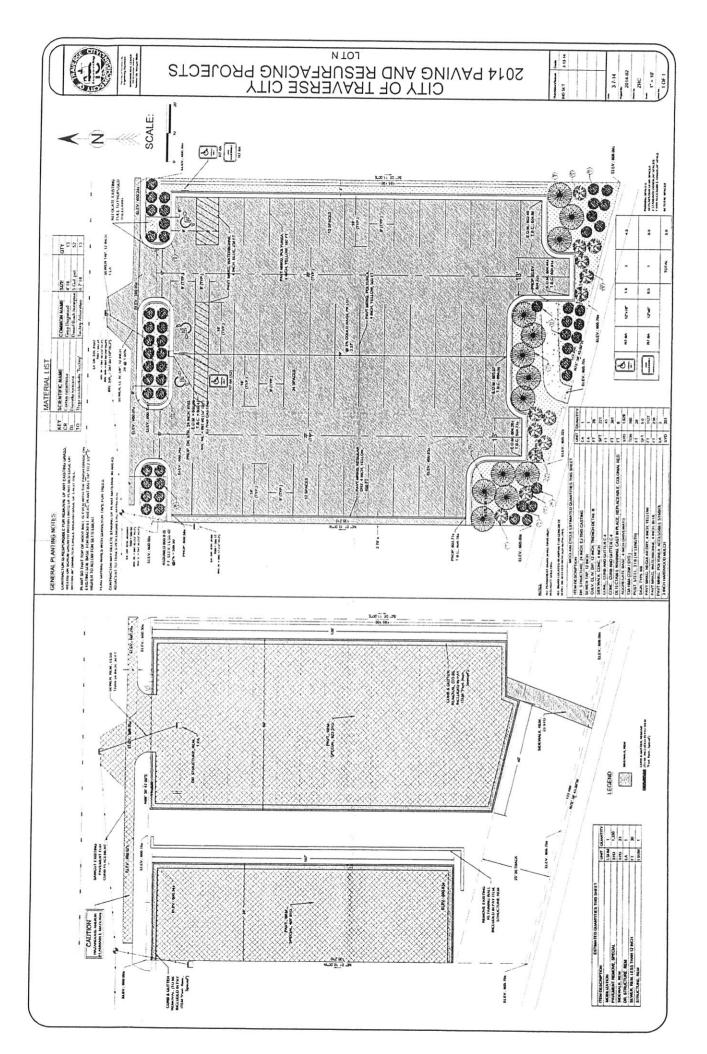
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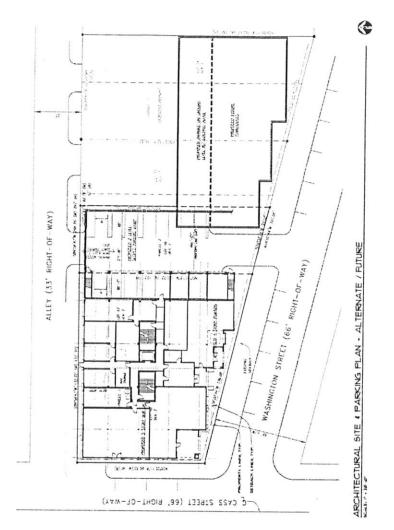
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ARCHITECTURAL SITE & PARKING PLAN



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Memorandum

The City of Traverse City Office of the City Manager



TO:

TIMOTHY J. LODGE, CITY ENGINEER

CC:

LAUREN TRIBLE-LAUCHT, CITY ATTORNEY RUSS SOYRING, PLANNING DIRECTOR

PENNY HILL, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

FROM:

₹⁰JERED OTTENWESS, CITY MANAGER

DATE:

NOVEMBER 14, 2014

SUBJECT:

WASHINGTON PLACE DEVELOPMENT, 215 WASHINGTON

STREET

In response to your memo dated November 10, 2014 in which you request guidance with respect to this development, please be advised that the developer is only authorized to construct this development in accordance with the Approved Project, which the City Commission approved on December 2, 2013 pursuant to the Option Agreement between the City of Traverse City and SNAFU, LLC executed on February 22, 2006. As you know, as a condition of the Option Agreement to purchase the property now under development, the Buyer, SNAFU, LLC was required to receive approval from the City Commission for an Approved Project that included designated parking location and layouts. The City Commission approved an Approved Project that clearly designated parking access from the alley between Washington and State Streets with an internal vehicle elevator for access between floors. The Approved Project did not include access from either Washington Street or the now City-owned property adjacent to the 215 Washington Street development and west of Parking Lot M.

City staff recently met with developer representatives, Tom McIntyre and Jon Laureto, on Wednesday, November 12th. I reiterated the City's position that they are not authorized to construct access to the development from either Washington Street or the City-owned property to the east of their development. I also advised them that City staff would not support their interest in obtaining/purchasing a permanent easement across the City-owned property to the east of their development nor would staff support their interest in pursuing a variance to construct a curb cut and access along Washington Street for the sole purpose of accessing the current development at 215 Washington Street, which would also require an amendment to the Approved Project. We also discussed with developer representatives the possibility that they could enter into an option agreement to purchase the City-owned property to the east of the 215 property that would replicate the option agreement that has allowed the 215 development to proceed so that they can develop a Washington Place Phase 2 development. I intend to draft a letter to the developer of 215 outlining the parameters of such an agreement in order to formalize our discussions from November 12th. This potential option agreement is preliminary, but could allow alternative access to the 215 development if approved by the City Commission. However, as of this writing

the development at 215 Washington must comply with the Approved Project including the parking location and layout. The Approved Project does not allow access from either Washington Street or the City-owned property to the east of the 215 development.

The City of Traverse City Office of the City Manager

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, MI 49684 (231) 922-4440 (231) 922-4476 Fax



November 18, 2014

Mr. Tom McIntyre SNAFU Investments, LLC 116 Cass Street Traverse City MI 49684

Re: Washington Place Phase I and Phase II

Dear Mr. McIntyre,

As we discussed at our meeting on November 12th, the approved site plan for Phase I calls for a vehicle elevator to be constructed, with access to the site from the alley. You indicated that this configuration is not the preferred one. You indicated that it is SNAFU's intent to request an option to purchase city-owned property (Parking lot N and property adjacent to Parking Lot N to the west) for the construction of Washington Place Phase II, and to request a "temporary easement" for use of and access to City-owned property (Parking lot N) for the Washington Place Phase I project. The term of the temporary easement would coincide with the term of the option to purchase. Upon completion of Phase I and Phase II, access to both sites would be from the alley, and the need for the vehicle elevator would be eliminated.

I suggested that this concept would be appropriate to schedule for a Study Session of the City Commission in order to gauge support for the proposal. In order to place this on the agenda, I will need a formal request from you, including any draft or concept plans including a description of Phase II development that show the relationship between Phase I and Phase II; how Parking lot N is anticipated to be used on the temporary basis; and the offered purchase price based on the most recent appraisal from January 2014.

I suggest that we begin this process as soon as possible since you have indicated that Phase I will be impacted by whether or not the City wishes to sell the subject City-owned property, and construction has already begun on Phase I.

I must emphasize that you proceed with construction of the Approved Project for Washington Place, Phase I. Any deviation from the Approved Project, which was approved by the City Commission at its December 2, 2013 meeting, will be undertaken at your own risk.

I am looking forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Jered Ottenwess

City Manager

JO:ph

Copy: Lauren Trible-Laucht,; Russ Soyring; Tim Lodge; Rob Bacigalupi

File

MINUTES TRAVERSE CITY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2007

7:30 PM

Commission Chamber, Governmental Center, 2nd Floor 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, Michigan 49684 231-922-4778

PRESENT:

Members Peltz, Hoekje, Wegener, Nixon, Stephan, Vice-Chairman Cockfield

and Chairman Callahan.

ABSENT:

Members Murphy and Olson

STAFF PRESENT: David Weston, Kelli Springer

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Approval of the minutes for the June 12, 2007 regular meeting.

Motion by Member Cockfield, seconded by Member Hoekje to approve the June 12, 2007 regular meeting minutes as presented. Upon vote the motion carried 7-0.

3. REQUEST 07-08 - A request from Matthew D. Hughey, KZH Properties L.L.C., 3880 Incochee Road, Traverse City, Michigan, for a dimensional variance to allow for a new commercial building and parking area to exceed the maximum impervious surface by 10 % for the properties commonly known as 618, 620 and 626 West Front Street, Traverse City, Michigan. (§1342.03)

Jim Christopherson attorney for Matthew D. Hughey presented drawings and answered questions from the Board.

Matt McClellan, Otwell Mawby spoke about environmental issues.

Rick Buckhalter, 1115 Rose Street, expressed support for the variance.

Betsy Bunn, 611 Third Street, Unit 5, had questions for the Board and staff.

Colleen Horton, 611 Third Street, Unit 1, expressed concerns about flooding.

Ann Marie Doyle, 611 Third Street, Unit 6, expressed concerns about lighting and dumpster placement.

Motion by Member Cockfield, seconded by Member Stephan to grant a dimensional variance to allow for a new commercial building and parking area to exceed the maximum impervious surface by 10 % for the properties commonly known as 618, 620 and 626 West Front Street, Traverse City, Michigan based on the Statement of Conclusions and Finding of Fact contained in the Order Granting Dimensional Variance No. 07-08. Upon vote the motion carried 6-1 with Member Peltz voting in opposition.

4. **REQUEST 07-09** - A request from Gerald A. Snowden, 1449 South Long Lake Road, Traverse City, Michigan for a dimensional variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street in a C-4 district and be less than 100 feet from an existing driveway located at the property commonly known as **346 East State Street**. (§1374.04(b)(2) & 1374.04(c))

Gerald Snowden presented drawings and answered questions from the Board.

Denni Scrudato, 422 East State Street, expressed support for the variance.

Rick Buckhalter, 1115 Rose Street, expressed support for the variance.

Motion by Member Peltz, seconded by Member Wegener to grant a dimensional variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street in a C-4 district and be less than 100 feet from an existing driveway located at the property commonly known as 346 East State Street based on the Statement of Conclusions and Finding of Fact contained in the Order Granting Dimensional Variance No. 07-09. Upon vote the motion carried 5-2 with Members Cockfield and Callahan voting in opposition.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Denni Scrudato, 422 East State Street, spoke on the lost opportunity to widen Front Street with the potential project at Front and Division.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9-11-07

David Weston, Secretary

CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY ORDER AUTHORIZING DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE NO. 07-09

Pursuant to the City Zoning Ordinance §1324.05(d), Variances, the Board of Zoning Appeals hereby authorizes a dimensional variance for the following:

Street Address:

346 East State Street, Traverse City, Michigan

Property Description: LOT 8 BLK 21 ORIG PLAT

2005 CHANGE TO CONDOS; RETIRED #798-164-01 AND CREATED

#513-000-00

Variance Authorized: A dimensional variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street in a C-4

district and be less than 100 feet from an existing driveway.

Applicant/Owner:

Gerald A. Snowden/2006 Boardman & State Partners

It is determined that the Applicant has demonstrated a practical difficulty as well as the basic conditions for authorizing a variance required by the Zoning Code. The findings of fact and reasons upon which this determination is based are as follows:

- 1. The attached Statement of Conclusions and Finding of Fact is incorporated herein by reference.
- The procedures and requirements for variance decisions required by law and ordinance 2. have been followed.

This Order shall not be deemed to be City approval for anything other than the variance authorized by this order, and shall not relieve the owner or occupier of the land from obtaining any other license, permit or approval required by law or ordinance.

I hereby certify that the above Order was adopted on For. // , 2007, at a regular meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals for the City of Traverse City at the Commission Chamber, Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan

David Weston, Planning and Zoning

Administrator

NOTE: A decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals Shall be final. However any party having a substantial interest affected by an order, determination or decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals may appeal to the Circuit Court if made to the Court within twenty-eight (28) days after rendering the final decision or upon grant by the Court of leave to appeal. Codified Ordinances of Traverse City Michigan §1324.07 (a).

STATEMENT OF CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS OF FACTS NO. 07-09

The following are Statements of Conclusions supported by evidence submitted to the Board of Zoning Appeals in connection with a request for a dimensional variance, Request No. 07-09, for the property commonly known as **346 East Street**, Traverse City, Michigan from Gerald A. Snowden.

- a) Practical difficulty. There are exceptional or extraordinary circumstances or physical conditions that do not generally apply to other property or uses in the same district.
- b) In granting the variance, the spirit of the Zoning Code is observed, public safety is secured and substantial justice is done.
- c) No substantial adverse effect on property value in the immediate vicinity or in the district where the property is located will occur as a result of granting this variance.
- d) The difficulty presented by the applicant in support of the request for a variance is not so general or recurrent in nature that a formulation of a general regulation for such condition is preferable.
- e) The practical difficulty is unique to the property and not to the general neighborhood and shall apply only to property under control of the applicant.
- f) Granting the variance is necessary for the preservation of a substantial property right possessed by other properties in the same zoning district.
- g) The difficulty is not solely economic and is based on the reasonable use of a particular parcel of land.
- h) The difficulty was not the result of an act of the applicant or a person in privity or concert with the applicant.

The foregoing Statement of Conclusions are supported by the following Findings of Fact for request No. 07-09:

- 1. There are approximately 31 curb cuts along State Street between Pine Street and Boardman Avenue.
- 2. There are 3 curb cuts along State Street, between Park Street and Boardman Avenue.
- 3. The City Plan supports the expansion of residential opportunities in the downtown area.
- 4. When someone is entering and someone is leaving, the individual entering is forced to back up into the alley
- 5. Operational limits for the curb cut are for ingress only from State Street.
- 6. There is 4 feet of vertical drop from the alley to the first garage door.
- 7. The Planning Commission provide the Board a letter of support for the granting of the variances.



City of Traverse City

APPLICATION FEE:	\$240.00	Date of Application:	4-21-15	
Check Number:	1033	Date of Public Hearing:	5-12-15	
Receipt Number:	18101	Case Number:	15-BZA-0	7

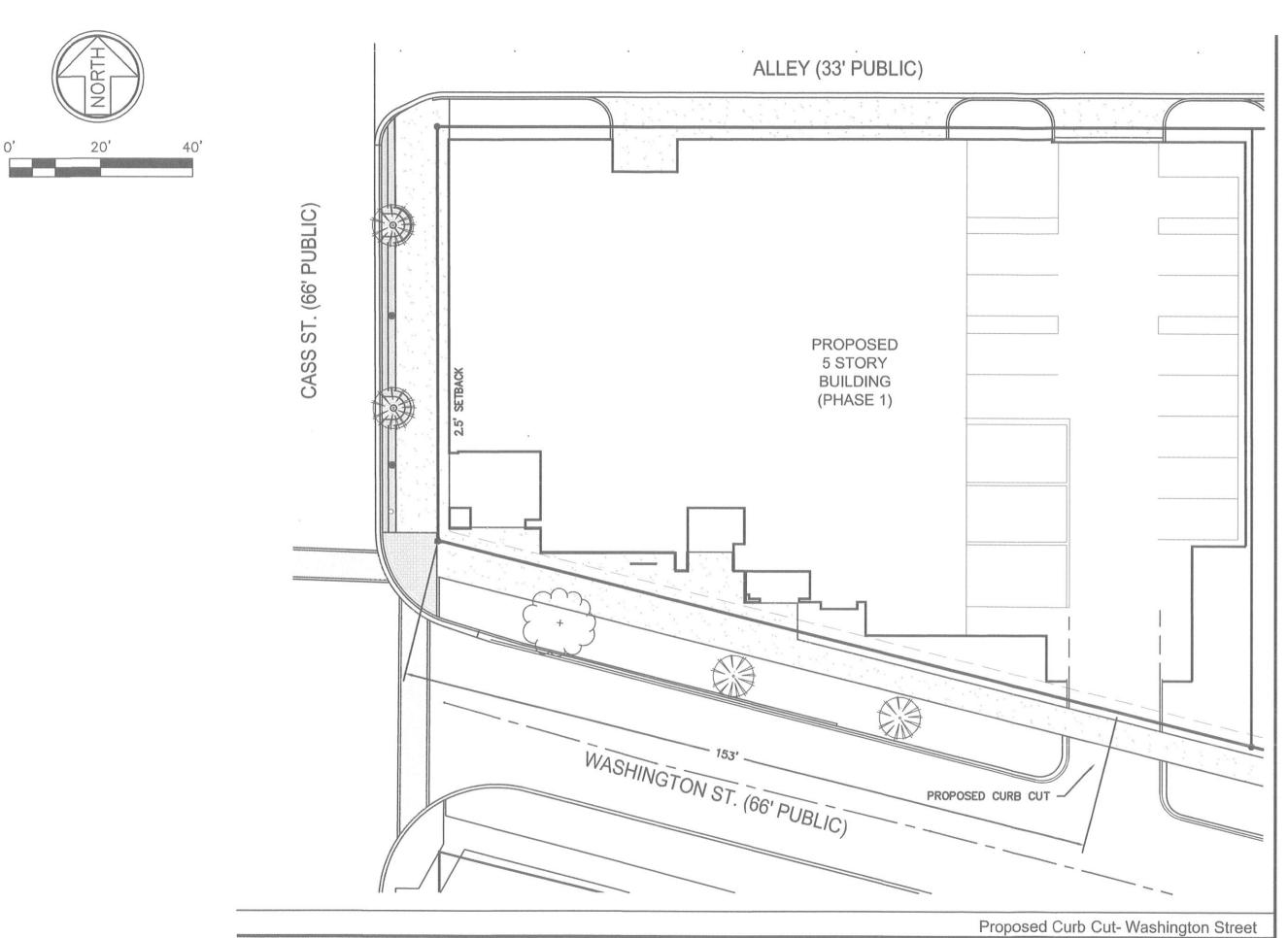
TRAVERSE CITY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS APPLICATION

for Variance, Exception, Appeal, Ordinance Interpretation or Reconsideration

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (legal description AND property ad-
dress): Washington Place - 215 Washington St.
See attached Legal pescription
REQUEST AND PROPOSED PROJECT:
Allow curb cut onto the Washington Street to access
Allow curb cut onto the Washington Street to access Parting for the washington Place Project. See Timeline Attachment.
TO BE COMPLETED BY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:
Request: Appeal for Administrative Decision
Interpretation of Ordinance
Exception
Variance
SNAFU Invedments
Name: Tom McIntyre Phone: 947 - 0880 Fax:
Address: 116 Cass Traverse City MI 49684
AN 9 + 5
Signature of Owner: YM FW,
· /
Signature of Applicant (if different):
Relationship of Applicant to Owner:
APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED A MINIMUM OF 21 DAYS PRIOR

TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE REQUEST WILL BE CONSIDERED.

REPRESENTATION AT HEARING: THE APPLICANT OR THE APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZED AGENT MUST BE PRESENT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING TO PROPERLY ANSWER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE APPEAL. IF THE APPLICANT OR AGENT IS NOT PRESENT, THE APPEAL MAY BE DEFERRED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING OR DISMISSED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD. *** PLEASE NOTE THE REVERSE SIDE FOR SITE PLAN REQUIREMENTS ***



ISSUE DATE: REVISIONS: **WASHINGTON PLACE**

2013-147

May 6, 2015

Zoning Board of Appeals 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, MI 49684

Regarding: Washington Place Curb Cut Variance

To whom it may concern:

We are writing to request the Zoning Board of Appeals to consider a new curb cut on the North side of Washington Street to access the nineteen parking spaces on the upper level parking lot being built at Washington Place. The original proposal for an automobile elevator has turned out to be a very awkward, impractical solution and, we worry, a real liability for users. Because the new lot is less than two feet above Washington Street at this location, a new curb cut here is a direct and obvious solution.

While new curb cuts are not encouraged in the C-4b District, new ones especially in locations like this one, may be considered to meet the intent of the ordinance.

In addition to the presentation we will make on Tuesday, May 12th, please consider the attached packet of information in support of this request.

The packet contains the following:

- a) Frequently Asked Questions
- b) ZBA Talking Points
- c) Neighborhood Support Park Place Hotel
- d) Neighborhood Support Alward, Fisher, Rice, Rowe and Graf
- e) Neighborhood Support Covell
- f) Exhibit 1 Zoning Map
- g) Exhibit 2 Curb Cut Inventory
- h) Exhibit 3 Washington Place Site Plan Overlay
- i) Exhibit 4 Curb Cut Dimension Plan
- j) Exhibit 5 Section View
- k) Otis email confirming Car Elevators do not allow passengers in the State of Michigan
- I) Section of Resubmitted Plans with added vehicle elevator reference
- m) PIE Meeting Construction Safety & Logistics plan
- n) ZBA Files re: Brownstones 346 East State St.
 - a. Meeting Minute section
 - b. Planning Commission support curb cuts to encourage residential downtown
 - c. 10/17/2006 Request for curb cut letter
 - d. 1/23/2007 Draft Language amending City Zoning Ordinance, The Brownstones

Sincerely,

Tom & Sheila McIntyre Co-developers Washington Place Development

Washington Place Curb Cut Request

Frequently Asked Questions:

5/6/15

Why are we here?

We are here to request the variance that is necessary to permit access to a second level of the parking at Washington Place residential condominium development. If approved, this variance will increase the number of parking spaces available in downtown Traverse City by 19 spaces. In order to accomplish this, we, our engineers, our architects, and our consultants have all determined that the only viable option is to request this variance for the installation of a curb cut on the north side of Washington Street.

Can the additional parking be added without the variance?

No, if this request is denied the Developer will not be able to utilize these additional spots.

What will happen if the variance is not awarded by the ZBA?

The residents of Washington Place condominiums will have to use the current permit parking and street parking, which is already deficient.

What other options has the Developer investigated to provide for the additional parking?

Due to the size and topographical limitations of the site, there aren't options for additional parking on this site other than what is proposed in this request. We investigated internal ramps, which does not allow a net gain in spaces, access through Lot N, the City indicated this option is not available and car elevators and lifts; car elevators are not allowed in the State of Michigan and lifts for moving vehicles are not safe or practical for the residents to operate.

What is unique about this site?

The unique topography on the site (the Washington Street sidewalk elevation is higher than the alley elevation) allows the opportunity to create the upper parking level with minimum visual impact – it appears as a surface lot when it is really elevated above the underground parking. There is no new impervious surface required allowing for much more efficient use of this space.

Have similar variances been awarded by the City?

The Brownstones, located at 346 East State Street, on this same block was awarded a curb cut variance under substantially similar circumstances.

How is Washington Place different from The Brownstones?

Unlike the approved curb cut for The Brownstones project required a total of three variances for minimum distances from intersections and adjacent curb cuts and a curb cut onto E. State Street. We are requesting one variance request for the curb cut itself.

Why not stay with a car elevator as approved by the city commission?

Through the design development process it was discovered that car elevators are not allowed in the State of Michigan. A lift is allowed in the State, but it is impractical and unsafe for use in multifamily residential projects due to numerous safety issues.

What will happen if the variance is not awarded?

Residential multifamily is not common in the C4 district and generally residential multifamily developments require a higher amount of parking. A shortage of parking is a common issue in the city. The Washington Place condominiums will add approximately 35 cars that will require permanent parking downtown. With both the underground and above ground parking currently in the plan, Washington Place will have 43 parking spaces available for owners and residents if this request is approved. If the variance is denied, there will be 19 fewer parking spaces available creating a hardship on owners as well as people who work downtown and require public parking in this area.

Is this project in the spirit of the Master Plan and Zoning?

Yes, this project is a multifamily residential building and is completely consistent with the master plan by encouraging mixed-use density downtown. Residential projects such as this require direct access to parking for safety and accessibility.

How many total parking spaces will be created downtown?

19 new downtown parking spaces will be created if this request is approved. We also plan to work with staff to reduce the impact of the curb cut on street parking through possible fire hydrant relocation and the possible traffic calming measure of shifting parking to the South side of Washington Street.

Why not a ramp off the alley?

Designs showing access ramps to upper level parking off the alley do not allow any increase in parking due to losing spaces below the ramp, in addition to the space that the ramp would occupy, and space required to account for the needed turning radiuses.

How many curb cuts are currently on Washington and State Streets?

All other multifamily properties on Washington Street and a similar section on State Street have curb cuts. If denied this will be the only multi-family residential property in the area without curb cut access.



Date: May 6th, 2015

Project: Washington Place Condos Corner of Washington & Cass

RE: Zoning Board of Appeals

Talking Points:

Traverse City Zoning Ordinance compliance:

- --The intent of the ordinance is to "regulate" not to restrict the "...number, location and spacing of driveway entrances to public streets".
- --The requested location for the curb cut and it's proposed construction details meets or exceeds the "conditions for Issuance", which are the practical and safety considerations for its use, including minimum driveway spacing requirements and minimum distances from street intersections, (this request is 140ft. from corner, 540ft. from next adjacent drive), heated drive and sidewalk and new curbs on the street.
- --The C-4 District encourages new development: a) to provide joint use of driveways for varied users, b)to provide integrated common parking facilities, c) to work with/respect historically significant buildings nearby, d) to include high density, downtown housing—all key components to this development.
- --Private parking is an allowed use in the C-4 District. The proposed lot off Washington Street, except for the restriction limiting car access from the street, complies with all the other ordinance conditions including: setbacks, accessory to allowed use, demonstrated need, car circulation clearances, screening and landscape development and pedestrian travel within the parking area. The lower level parking also complies with its alley access, enclosed structure and elevation below Washington Street. Alternatively, the ordinance also provides for one driveway from a public street, as proposed in this request. Note, if this lot were considered public parking, it would be in full compliance.

Conditions for ZBA Approval:

- --The new Washington Place building clearly meets the "spirit of the Zoning Code", in fact it is being viewed as a model for downtown residential infill development by neighbors, residents, other developers and city leaders.
- --The only effect this new development will have on property values in the immediate vicinity is overwhelmingly positive. The need for a curb cut for access to parking is not unlike conditions for the ZBA approved curb cut at the Brownstone Condominiums on Boardman granted in 2006, (#8 on exhibit site plans). Both projects are on an atypical alley (the same one, sort of)- not quite a dead end, but nearly—an exception in Traverse City.
- --While we have taken advantage of the topography of the parcel in the building design, it has created practical difficulties in accessing the Washington Street upper level parking. With a curb cut, this hardship goes away.
- --Most other properties on this block of Washington Street have curb cuts including the other two multifamily projects across the street. There are only a few single family exceptions. Until or unless there is a concise planning process for the rest of the street, (specifically the inevitable Park Place redevelopment), these separate curb cuts seem necessary to preserve property rights.
- -- Because of the unique alley behind and the specific topography of the site on Washington Street, without the requested curb cut the on-site parking potential for this property is halved. All other solutions to access the proposed second level parking use up most of the spaces to get there.
- --The proposed two level lot accommodates 43 cars -- barely enough for the new development that includes 23 new single family condominiums and 3 new businesses of 4240 square feet. Residents and business owners and their clients cars not accommodated on site will take public city spaces from the street. This request is more about a reasonable use of land- both Washington Place's and the city's than it is about economics.



May 6, 2015

The Zoning Board of Appeals City of Traverse City 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, Michigan 49686

Re: Request for Washington Street access from Snafu Development, LLC

Dear ZBA Members:

I am the General Manager of the Park Place Hotel and am writing to express my support for the Snafu Development request for access onto Washington Street from the surface parking lot now under construction.

Parking in all of downtown Traverse City is a concern for the business community, but as the largest business in the downtown area, I can assure you that there is a serious deficit of adequate parking in the 200 blocks of both State Street and Washington Street. This deficit is due to several factors: The parking demands placed on the area during weekdays when the Courthouse and other government offices are open and so active with employees and visitors, tourists seeking parking spaces convenient to downtown shopping, our many guests at the Park Place Hotel, the two churches located in the immediate area and the local residents and their guests needing a place to park.

We strongly support the Washington Place condominium project and the 23 residential units it will bring to downtown Traverse City. But we are concerned that without the requested access to the above ground parking and a curb cut onto Washington Street, there will be a serious added demand placed on both nearby public and private parking which is already inadequate to serve the needs of the neighborhood.

I urge you to approve this requested access to Washington Street.

Sincerely

Amy Parker General Manager Park Place Hotel

ALWARD FISHER RICE ROWE & GRAF

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

202 E. STATE STREET, SUITE 100 TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49684 Phone (231) 346-5400 Facsimile (231) 941-9679 WWW.NMICHLAW.COM

E-mail: talward@nmichlaw.com Direct: (231) 346-5401

May 6, 2015

Board of Zoning Appeals City of Traverse City 400 Boardman Ave. Traverse City, Michigan 49684

Re: Washington Place Variance Request

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a partner at Alward, Fisher, Rice, Rowe & Graf, PLC. Our office is located in the City Centre building at 202 E. State Street. On behalf my partners, our employees and clients, I am writing to strongly support the variance requested by Washington Place Development.

Parking is a major issue in the City of Traverse City and even more specifically in this area. Our employees generally arrive to work between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. By the time they arrive, all or a majority of the parking spaces in Lot N and on Washington Street are not available. Our attorneys and staff often complain that if they leave for lunch or run an errand, when they return there is no where to park. Further, we find when there is no where to park, we have the general public simply park in our restricted spots.

It is my understanding that if the variance is not granted, the second floor of the parking deck will not be completed and there will be 19 fewer spots. This could have a dramatic negative impact on an already dire situation.

We sincerely hope the Board of Zoning Appeals will take this opportunity to award a variance for a single curb cut that would allow the addition of these needed parking spaces.

Sincerely,

ALWARD, FISHER, RICE, ROWE & GRAF, P.L.C.

Thomas R. Alward

TRA/skc



May 7, 2015

The Zoning Board of Appeals City of Traverse City 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, Michigan 49686

Re: Request for Washington Street access from Snafu Development, LLC

Dear Board Members:

I am writing today as the Manager of Covell Funeral Home located at 232 E. State Street, Traverse City. We are neighbors of the Washington Place Development project and share the alley and private and public parking with this development and the other neighbors and businesses on the block. The purpose of this letter is to support the development's request for access onto Washington Street from their surface parking area now being constructed.

As a long time business person in this area I can assure you that there are serious parking deficiencies on the alley, along the streets and within our own property. Oftentimes we experience a lack of adequate parking during funerals at our business. We also must constantly monitor our own parking lots to be sure that the public is not using our spaces when they are looking for parking downtown.

I understand that by approving their request, Washington Place Development will be able to provide up to 19 additional parking spaces on this block. These parking spaces are very important to our business, to our neighbors, and to the City of Traverse City. With so many new residents moving onto the block it will undoubtedly create even more of a shortage of parking if the developer is not permitted this access.

I would sincerely appreciate your support of this requested access to Washington Street.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Kehrer

Stysham Lour

Manager



ВОАКОМАИ АУЕ.

?

ALLEY

RUNNING WISE AND FORD

C4C

PARK

4

C-4C 14

CENTRE

12

ATTEX

C-4A

YALLEY

C-4C

PROPOSED CURB CUT

C-4B

C-4B

R-29

(2)

C-4B

C-4C

PARK DR.

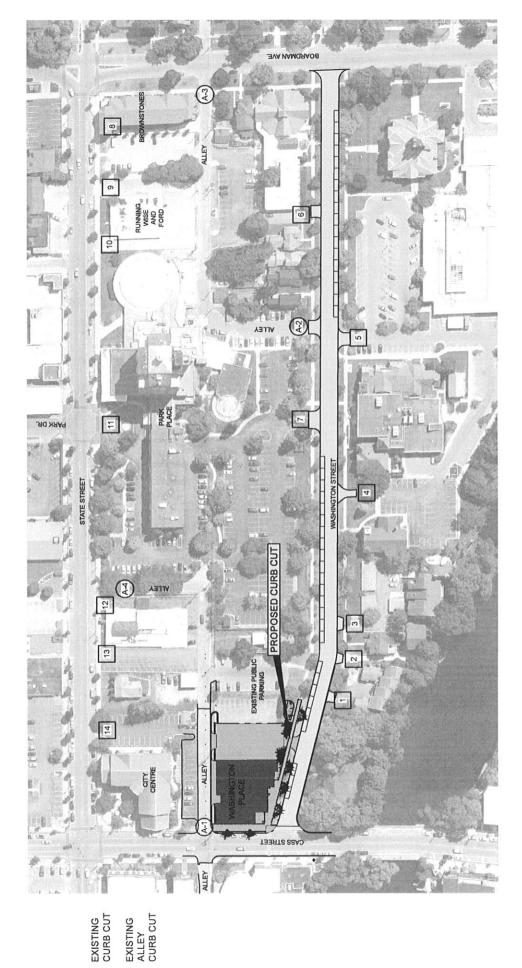
C-4C













washington street curb cut request

exhibit 4 proposed curb cut dimension plan





.0

exhibit 5 parking section view

washington street curb cut request

Jon Laureto

From:

Gnewkowski, Michael S BIS < Michael. Gnewkowski@otis.com >

Sent:

Monday, April 27, 2015 2:19 PM

To:

Jon Laureto

Subject:

RE: Vehicle Elevators

Jon-

Unfortunately, the only elevators of size and capacity to elevate automobiles are the true freight elevators. These are holed-hydraulic units that under the designation as "freight" cannot be used to transport people, but only materials or in this case a car. They are not practical for general use by the public and are found typically in a manufacturing environment.

Sincerely-



Mike Gnewkowski

New Equipment Account Manager, LEED® AP 3765 Broadmoor, SE - Suite J Grand Rapids, Michigan 49512 office: (616) 975-3022 x11 efax: (860) 755-4871 mobile: (616) 430-8728

michael.gnewkowski@otis.com

www.otis.com



Everything fits in the hoistway. Curious? Click below to learn how:

http://www.otis.com/site/us/Pages/Gen2ProductPage.aspx

From: Jon Laureto [mailto:jon@REIconstructionconsultants.com]

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2015 11:51 AM

To: Gnewkowski, Michael S BIS **Subject:** [External] Vehicle Elevators

Mike,

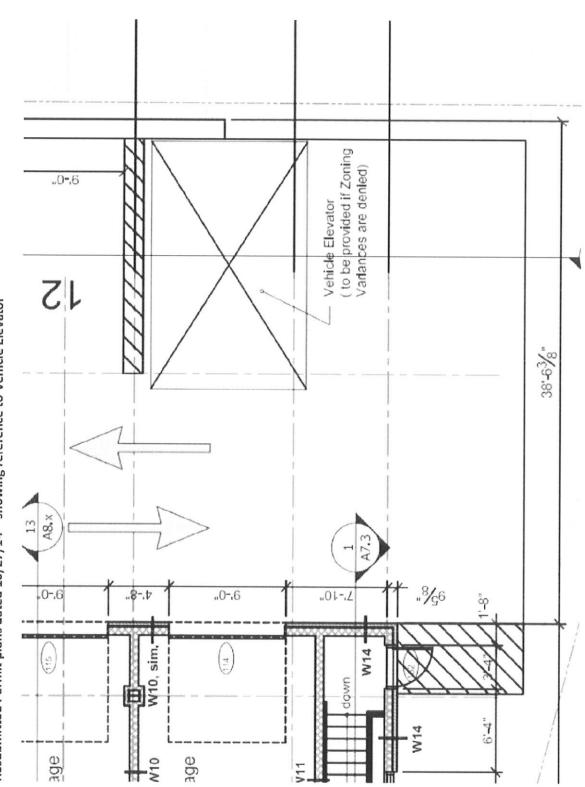
Can you have vehicle elevators in multi-family / public spaces? The city would like us to install versus a variance request.

Jon Laureto, LEED AP

REI Construction Consultants

(231) 735-3411 cell

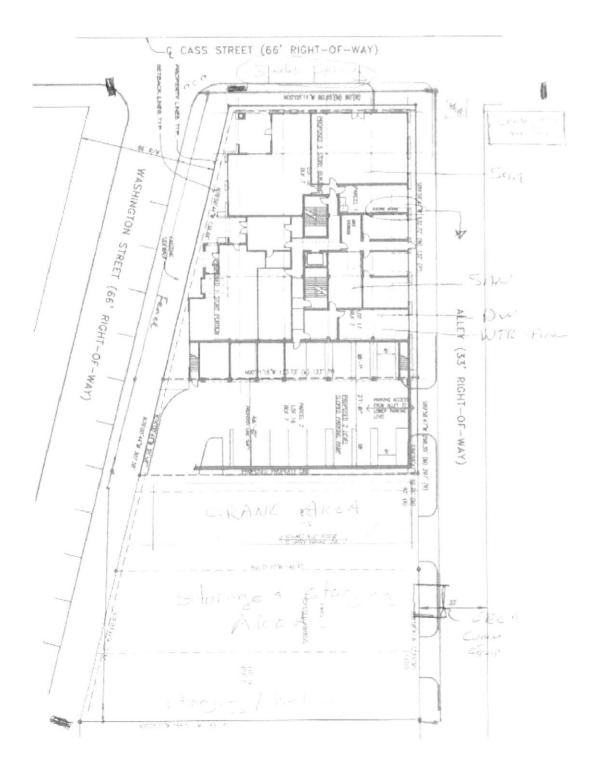
jon@REIConstructionConsultants.com



Resubmitted Permit plans dated 10/27/14 – showing reference to Vehicle Elevator



8/14/14 Washington Place Construction Safety & Logistics



4. REQUEST 07-09 - A request from Gerald A. Snowden, 1449 South Long Lake Road. Traverse City. Michigan for a dimensional variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street in a C-4 district and be less than 100 feet from an existing driveway located at the property commonly known as 346 East State Street. (§1374.04(b)(2) & 1374.04(c))

Gerald Snowden presented drawings and answered questions from the Board.

Denni Scrudato, 422 East State Street, expressed support for the variance.

Rick Buckhalter, 1115 Rose Street, expressed support for the variance.

Motion by Member Peltz, seconded by Member Wegener to grant a dimensional variance to allow for a new driveway to access a street in a C-4 district and be less than 100 feet from an existing driveway located at the property commonly known as 346 East State Street based on the Statement of Conclusions and Finding of Fact contained in the Order Granting Dimensional Variance No. 07-09. Upon vote the motion carried 5-2 with Members Cockfield and Callahan voting in opposition.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Denni Scrudato, 422 East State Street, spoke on the lost opportunity to widen Front Street with the potential project at Front and Division.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Date: 9-11-07

David Weston, Secretary

The City of Traverse City

Planning Department

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, Michigan 49684



CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

July 23, 2007

Mr. Michael Callahan, Chairman Board of Zoning Appeals 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, MI 49684

Dear Mr. Callahan:

Before the Board of Zoning Appeals is an appeal from Mr. Gerald Snowden, Developer of the Boardman Brownstones, a nine-unit residential development, at the southwest corner of State and Boardman to permit a driveway on State Street. The property is within the C-4 Regional Center District, which does not allow new driveways onto a public street.

Please let this letter serve as support from the City Planning Commission to grant relief from the prohibition of driveways and the driveway separation requirements to allow a driveway onto State Street, with restrictions, for the Boardman Brownstones development. According to Mr. Snowden, the driveway would be limited to ingress only and would be designed to prevent drivers from exiting onto State Street from this driveway.

In making this recommendation, the Planning Commission recognizes the driveway as constructed makes it difficult to maneuver an automobile into the northern most garage. By allowing a driveway from State Street, the maneuvering effort would be less difficult.

The Planning Commission would like to limit the number of driveways in the downtown area so the business district remains pedestrian oriented. However, the Planning Commission recognizes that residential development is also very desirable and that in some cases a driveway onto the street for residential development will be necessary for properties that do not have alley access. The City Plan supports the expansion of residential opportunities in the downtown as a strategy to strengthen the retail core and provide housing close to work for many downtown workers. The Planning Commission is also exploring possible revisions to the Zoning Ordinance to allow driveways in the C-4 Regional Center district when a parcel's shape or dimension would make motor vehicle access only from an alley difficult in terms of circulation and maneuvering.

In the case of the Boardman Brownstones, the building is built. Parking an automobile in the northern most dwelling's garage is nearly impossible which makes it more difficult to sell. If relief is granted to permit a State Street driveway, perhaps the northern most residential unit will be more marketable and the unit will be occupied.

The Planning Commission appreciates the thoughtfulness the Board of Zoning Appeals will give this request to vary the driveway requirements for this residential development.

Sincerely,

Janice Warren

Planning Commission Chairwoman

RICHMOND ARCHITECTS

ARCHITECTURE FLANTING LRBAN DESIGN

MET WITTERSTREET BUTTERW TRANSPEC SITE MICHIGAN 19682 NAT BUE OWDO 18.

251 946 3323 ***

OCT 18 2006

PLANTA O DEFT CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY

Russ Soyring, City Planning Director City of Traverse City 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, MI 49684

Re: Consideration of curb cut on State Street at the new Brownstones on Boardman per a site meeting and discussions with Dave Weston, Jerry Snowden and Ken Richmond

Dear Russ.

October 17, 2006

I am writing on behalf of Jerry Snowden and Ross Biederman to ask the city to consider a new curb cut just west of Boardman Street on the south side of State Street (both are "collectors"). The site is narrow for the nine new residential units and the on-site parking below each one barely works – back up space is minimal, garages and turning radius are very tight and the single access drive to the alley requires residences to backup or wait for one another to get in and out of their spaces. We expect this to be even worse in the winter. One way egress to State Street with a new curb cut would help considerably.

We understand that this request is not specifically allowed in the C-4 district but a new curb cut in this location may be considered within the intent of the ordinance.

We ask you to please consider the following in support of our request (as referenced to the Traverse City Zoning Ordinance in regular type). Note my commentary in italies.

1246.01 STREETS, CROSSWALKS AND PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS.

(a) <u>Location and Arrangement.</u>

(4) Alleys. Alleys shall not be permitted in plats in areas intended for single or two-family residential development. Alleys may be provided in commercial subdivisions. Dead-end alleys shall be prohibited.

Although not technically an alley, the service drive at the Brownstones acts like one in the traditional Traverse City way of handling cars, trash and services at the rear of the residential units. As a dead-end, it doesn't work well and may not meet the intent of this section. Also, while we may lose one parking space on the street with this curb cut, we have gained twelve on the site.

1026.02 (Curb Cuts). CONDITIONS FOR ISSUANCE.

No curb cut permit will be issued:

- (a) When the curb cut is to be made permanent and is within twenty feet of any other permanent cut on the same premises; Compliance (Nearest curb cut is approximately 93 feet to the west.
- (b) When such cut is to be made permanent and is intended to be more than thirty-two feet in its total throat width; Compliance (Proposed curb cut may be as narrow as twelve feet.)
- (c) When such cut is on corner property and is within the quadrant of an intersection or the sidewalk area; Compliance (Proposed curb cut is approximately 52 feet away from intersection.)
- (d) When, in the opinion of the City Manager, such cut will interfere with the safety of the public; With City Manager approval.
- (e) Unless the sidewalk above the area of the curb opening is constructed of an approved grade of monolithic concrete, not less than six inches in thickness for residential drives. (1976 Code Sec. 9.172) *Compliance (Sidewalk meets specifications.)*

1374.04 DRIVEWAYS AND ACCESS REQUREMENTS

- (a) <u>Intent</u>. It is the intent of this section to regulate the number, location and spacing of driveway entrances to public streets from private property and to encourage the joint use of driveways and alternative access ways wherever possible so as to minimize the frequency of traffic conflict points, increase safety and protect the traffic carrying capacity of arterial and collector streets.
- (b) **Prohibitions.** After the effective date of this Zoning Code.
 - (1) No new driveways are permitted on a new primary arterial or new collector street.
 - (2) No new driveways are permitted from streets in the C-4 District.

Limiting curb cuts in the C-4 District this way discourages small scale infill development. To encourage good buildings and best use on small 65 foot wide lots like the Brownstones, new driveways will have to be considered. Like much of Traverse City's traditional development patterns, especially along State and Boardman Streets, buildings developed along these collectors streets with direct access to the frontage.

(c) <u>Minimum spacing regulations.</u> The following minimum driveway spacing requirements shall apply to arterial and collector streets in all districts. Driveways located in proximity to another driveway on the same die of the street shall not be closer than the linear footage established by the following:

Street Type	Alternate Access Available	No Alternate Access Available
Arterial	200 feet	100 feet
Collector	200 feet	100 feet

(d) <u>Minimum distance from street intersections.</u> Driveways shall not be located nearer to street intersections than established by the following. Minimum spacing is measured along the street curb line and is determined by the linear footage from the end of the intersection curb radius to the end of the driveway curb radius.

If a driveway enters a street classified as:	And the intersecting street is classified as:	Minimum spacing for driveway entering a lane approaching the intersection (feet):	Minimum spacing for driveways entering a lane leaving the intersection (feet):
Access	Access, Collector or		, ,
	Arterial	15	15
Collector	Access. Collector or		
	Arterial	50	50
Arterial	Access	50	50
Arterial	Collector	50	50
Arterial	Arterial		

Although the requested State Street access would be less than the required 200 feet from the next driveway (at approximately 93 feet) to the west, it does meet the 50 foot setback from the intersection (approximately 52 feet) to the east.

(e) Exceptions. In all districts.

- (3) Further exceptions. Further exceptions to driveway minimum spacing regulation in paragraphs (c) and (d) hereof may be granted upon approval of the City Engineer. The distance requirement may be reduced by no more than 50 percent if the City Engineer determines that the requested exception, along with possible additional exceptions in the same area, will meet the following findings:
 - A. The character of the street or neighborhood shall not be diminished or negatively impacted.
 - B. It is necessary for reasonable use of the lot.
 - C. It shall not contravene the intent and purpose of this Zoning Code.
 - D. It meets other conditions the City Engineer may specify regarding the health and safety aspects of the exception.

The new use of this site for a multi-family building clearly does not meet exceptions 1374.04 (e) (1) and (2) (dealing with existing conditions), for existing curb cuts but the city can grant an exception for a new one as long as the distance of the curb cut to the corner is not less than 50 feet and A. the character of the "street or neighborhood is not negatively impacted" or B. it does support "reasonable use of the lot." Traverse City pedestrians (and skateboarders too) in the Boardman neighborhood and on State Street are accustomed to well marked driveways and alleys as part of living and walking downtown. With nine new residences and their vehicles on the corner of Boardman and State Streets it seems reasonable to not direct all vehicles to the alley but to consider routing some of them, maybe one way, on or off of State

Street. The new driveway would be consistent with the existing built patterns of the neighborhood.

The other driveway requirements 1374.04 (f), (g) and (h) would be easy to meet.

1374.04 DELIVERY TRUCK LOADING REQUREMENTS.

It would also be possible to limit service access off State Street with signage and limited clearances to autos only, to direct the occasional delivery or service vehicle to the alley.

1346 C-4 REGIONAL CENTER DISTRICTS, introduction

It seems important to point out the intent of C-4 development in the Zoning Ordinance and the Brownstone's compliance with it...

- "...integrated common parking facilities."
- "...integrated with historically significant buildings."
- "...high density housing is appropriate."

This same section allows driveways to public parking areas. However, it also allows for private parking when:

1346.01 USES ALLOWED: Parking Areas - Private

- (1) "The parking is accessory to an allowed use." Compliance
- (2) "There can be demonstrated a need for private parking which will not be satisfied by existing or imminent public parking within 500 feet of the proposed use." Compliance
- (3) "No buildings may be removed or demolished to provide the private parking area." *Compliance*
- (4) "Access shall be from an alley or adjacent property only, not from a public street." *Not in compliance, thus this request.*
- (5) "All requirements of Chapter 1374, Circulation and Parking, are met, exception Section 1374.03(d), Parking space requirements." Okay
- (6) All requirement of Sections 1372.04, screening requirements for parking areas, and 1372.05, Landscape development internal to a parking area are met. Okay
- (7) Pedestrian travel routes within the parking area shall be provided, clearly defined and approved by the Planning Director. *Compliance*

1346.01 USES ALLOWED: Parking Areas-Public

As a note, if this were considered "public parking" it would be in full compliance with 1346.01 (1), (2), (3) and (4) including the requested curb cut.

1346.02 Uses Allowed by Special Land Use Permit

Also, with a Special Land Use Permit, private parking is allowed on this site – all setbacks are met per 1346.04 and the building also complies with special requirements per 1346.09.

In closing, this request seems reasonable due to the city's desire to develop the downtown with good infill projects, especially residential, including the small parcels and not just large developments. Small infill will require curb cuts and site considerations perhaps different than large ones. These could be reviewed, as we are requesting here, site by site as exceptions, granted by the Zoning Administrator or the City Planner as provided by the Ordinance or as an Ordinance change in the form of an Amendment.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely.

Kenneth C. Richmond, AIA

KCR:tf

Cc: Dave Westen Jerry Snowden Ross Biederman

Mark Eckhoff

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Jerry Snowden

FROM:

CR Meyer

RE:

Curb Cut - Draft language amending City Zoning Ordinance, The

Brownstones

DATED:

01/23/2007

I have reviewed your materials for the above issue. I think that the dead-end alley prohibition in Section 1246.01(a)(4) of the Zoning Code is inconsistent with the no curb cut prohibition in Section 1332.08. These apparently inconsistent provisions ought to be reconciled in certain circumstances where a new project, like The Brownstones, creates private, off-street parking areas that are accessed through a common private driveway that is akin to a private alley.

I believe that an internal driveway in a project like The Brownstones is similar to a private alley. The Zoning Ordinance contains interesting definitions:

Alley is defined as "a way which functions primarily as a service corridor and provides access to properties abutting thereon." [ZC ∮1320.07]

Right of way means "a public or private street, alley or easement permanently established for the passage of persons or vehicles." [Id, emphasis added]

<u>Driveway</u> is defined as "a means of access for vehicles from a street, approved alley, across a lot or parcel to a parking or loading area, garage, dwelling or other structure or area on the same lot." [Id]

I note, further, that an objective of the Zoning Code appears to be to promote private, off-street parking areas. The Brownstones created nine new private, off-street parking areas - and garages to boot.

The Zoning Ordinance also appears to at least contemplate - and perhaps require - that off-street parking be connected to a street. The definition of <u>Parking area, off-street</u> is: "a land surface or facility providing vehicular parking spaces <u>off of a street</u> together with drives and maneuvering lanes so as to provide access for <u>entrance and exit</u> for the parking of motor vehicles." [ZC ∮1320.07, emphasis added]

I therefore think the following simple exception to Section 1332.08 is consistent with the foregoing provisions of the Zoning Code.

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AMENDING ∮ 1332.08

"Provided that in cases where more than _____* (_*__) residential dwellings are constructed in a new plat, subdivision or condominium established after 1999, which is serviced by an internal private driveway or alley, the following special exception shall apply, so as not to create a violation of Section 1246.01(a)(4) of this Zoning Code (prohibiting deadend alleys): A curb cut and direct driveway or alley access to a public street may be permitted upon a finding that a minimum of one private off-street parking area per dwelling has been created within the new plat, subdivision or condominium."

*Density inserted. Note, instead of specifying a minimum density, the amending language could be tied to "Multiple family dwelling," which by definition in Zoning Code is three or more dwellings. If this is option preferred, language would start: "Provided that in cases involving a Multiple Family Dwelling constructed in...[reads as above]".

While I understand some of City Planning's concerns, I also think that some of them are misplaced. In Mr. Lodge's Memorandum dated 10/23/2006, two of his five objections are that co-owners of units in The Brownstones can use the public parking deck. If the City wants to encourage residential uses in a walkable community, the belief that homeowners should walk from a public parking structure to their residences is unrealistic.

The Memorandum also objects that up to two public parking spaces on State Street would be eliminated, if the dead-end driveway is opened up with a curb cut on State Street. I think the better point is that The Brownstones created <u>nine</u> private off-street parking areas. So, there is a net gain of 7 off-street parking areas.

Finally, Mr. Lodge's point that the site could have been designed differently seems to me inconsistent with the Zoning Code provisions quoted above. If the City wants to encourage off-street parking areas, the Code clearly contemplates - and would appear to me to require - an "entrance and exit" "off of a street." This is how The Brownstones are designed.

The proposed amendatory language allows this to occur in very limited and unique situations, by harmonizing Sections 1246.01(a)(4) and 1332.08.

To: Board of Zoning Appeals Members / Dave Weston;

Unfortunately my travel schedule does not allow me to attend the May 12, 2015 meeting of the BZA. It is my understanding that at this meeting you are going to consider a request from Tom McIntyre SNAFU Investments for a driveway variance for property at 215 Washington Street. I am personally opposed to granting this variance. There are several facts that should be brought to light in regard to this matter.

Attached is a copy of the Traverse City Study Session Agenda for November 25, 2013. The accompanying drawings, which I have labeled #1 and #2, were presented in that packet. Drawing #1 clearly shows that the access to parking is from the alley. The street and alley are clearly identified on Drawing #2. In addition, I understand from the City Engineer that on several occasions the Engineering staff has had discussions with the applicant or his designee, making clear that the city will not allow for a driveway from Washington Street in accordance with City of Traverse City Zoning Ordinance 1374.04 b. Also, Zoning Ordinance 1346.01 addresses access to parking from the alley, and then goes on to define access from the street when no alley is present. Both ordinances are quite clear that when there is an alley, access to parking must come from the alley.

In spite of these conversations, and in spite of the clarity of the ordinances, the developer appears to have changed his mind and continued to build in a manner that would necessitate a driveway from Washington Street. The developer has, in my personal opinion, consciously disregarded city ordinance and adopted an attitude of "better to ask forgiveness than permission".

There are important ramifications that would occur should this variance be granted. First of all, The City of Traverse City has been working steadily for years on the elimination of driveways in higher walking or biking traffic areas (especially in the commercial districts). In fact, during the recent project to re-pave West Front Street considerable effort was expended in an attempt to get business to abandon existing driveways. Secondly, driveways, according to National Institute of Traffic Safety data are one of the leading causes of auto and pedestrian accidents. Third, the grant of this variance would mean that there would be the loss of three (3) street parking spots on Washington Street. Therefore, granting this variance creates an exception to current Traverse City efforts to reduce curb cuts; creates a potential for pedestrian/auto accidents at the point of entry to the parking area; and causes a net loss in number of street parking spaces. In my opinion, none of these things should occur, and therefore the variance should be denied. I can see no justification for a variance to be granted, in that any alleged 'hardship' to the applicant appears to be of his own doing.

At stake in this variance request is a more fundamental question: that of principle. This request has more impact than simply the issuance of a driveway exception to the City Ordinance. I feel it is important that the City hold developers to the agreed-upon standards and ordinances that are established. I believe that in this particular situation, the developer was well aware that what he was doing was not acceptable, but built in a manner that created the very hardship from which he seeks relief. I strongly urge you to uphold the directions of the City in regards to minimizing curb cuts within the commercial districts and to send a clear message to all developers that the city ordinances and agreements are something that must be followed. Please vote NO on this request for a variance.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the City of Traverse City,

John F Serratelli

237 Midtown Dr. Traverse City, MI.

Welcome to the Traverse City Study Session!

Any interested person or group may address the City Commission on any agenda item when recognized by the presiding officer or upon request of any commissioner. Also, any interested person or group may address the City Commission on any matter of City concern not on the Agenda during the agenda item designated Public comment. The comment of any member of the public or any special interest group may be limited in time. Such limitation shall not be less than five minutes unless otherwise explained by the presiding officer, subject to appeal by the Commission.

Agenda

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

- 1. Discussion regarding development plans for Washington Place. (Jered Ottenwess, Russell Soyring)
- 2. Announcements from the City Clerk. (Benjamin Marentette)
- 3. Public comment.
- 4. Adjournment.

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WASHINGTON PLACE c/o SNAFU, LLC 116 Cass Street Traverse City, Michigan 49684

November 12, 2013

Jered Ottenwess, City Manager City of Traverse City 400 Boardman Avenue Traverse City, Michigan 49684

Re: Option Agreement between City of Traverse City and Snafu, LLC

Jered,

With this application, per the Option agreement dated 2/22/2006 between City of Traverse City and Snafu, LLC (Tom McIntyre) I am asking for city approval of the proposed project that involves city parking Lot W and the adjacent SNAFU, LLC lot to the east. The proposed new building on the corner of Washington and Cass streets includes one level of retail and/or professional use at street level, three floors residential above and one level below grade parking. Plans, elevations and reference site plans included. I believe we have fulfilled the requirements for this request of an "Approved Project" for Lot W.

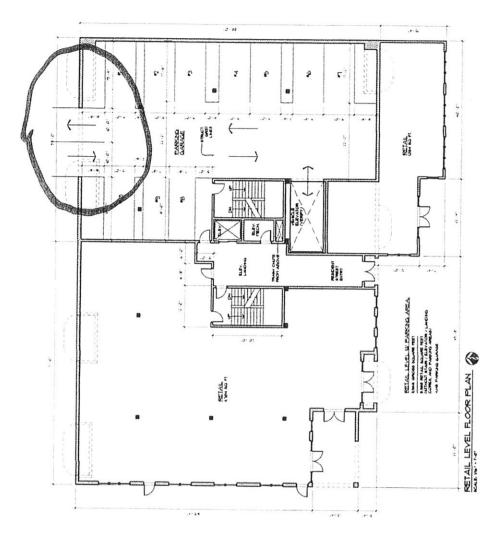
Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

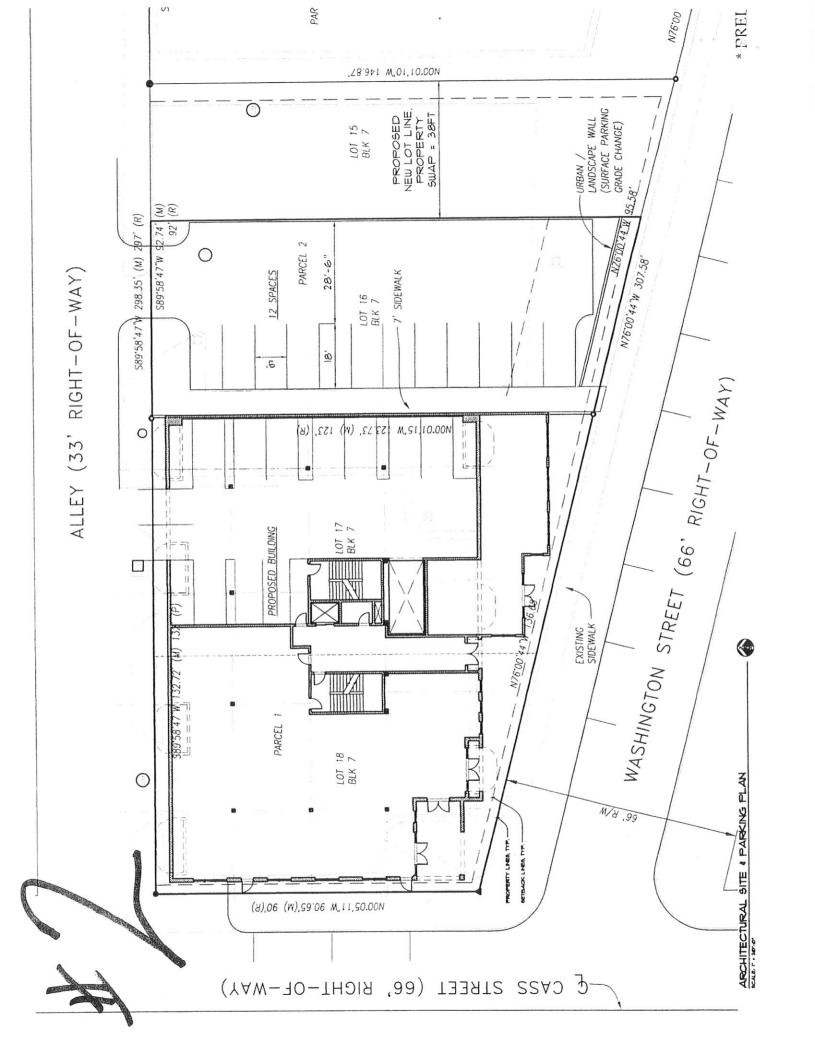
Tom McIntyre

Co Developer

ATCHMOND AND PROPERTY AND PROPE







May 1, 2015

Ref: Response to hearing for zoning relief made by Tom McIntyre

To: Traverse City Board of Zoning Appeals

This letter supports a DENIAL for the requested relief.

We are sending this letter as we will be out of town at the time of the public hearing. Our reasons for urging a denial are:

- Before the new 5-story building was started there was a parking lot that was served well
 through access via the "alley." This alley is wide and paved, more of a street than an
 alley. Having another entrance to parking in the same location is unnecessary.
- 2. In our dining area we have a direct view of the intersection of Cass and Washington St. This intersection is clearly a busy one, with vehicles going and coming between Cass and Washington. Often there are West bound vehicles lined up waiting to turn onto Cass. At the same time there are many vehicles turning from Cass to go East on Washington. Should an East bound vehicle then want to turn across the West bound traffic into a driveway it would likely result in a backup of the East bound traffic back to Cass, causing a more serious traffic problem at that intersection. Adding a driveway into the new building off Washington would be too close to an already congested intersection.
- Additionally, many pedestrians and cyclists negotiate the Cass/Washington intersection at all times. Adding to the congestion would increase the hazards experienced by these people.
- 4. Finely, we are confident that the existing ordnances were created for good reasons. Presumably Mr. McIntyre, an experienced developer, understood the limitations and challenges of this particular location for his multi-use construction. Keeping congestion to a minimum should be a goal of the Zoning Board.

Yours sincerely,

Ginger and Tony Hirt

222 Washington St., #4

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